

Hunters Point Shipyard Historical Radiological Assessment Fact Sheet No.1

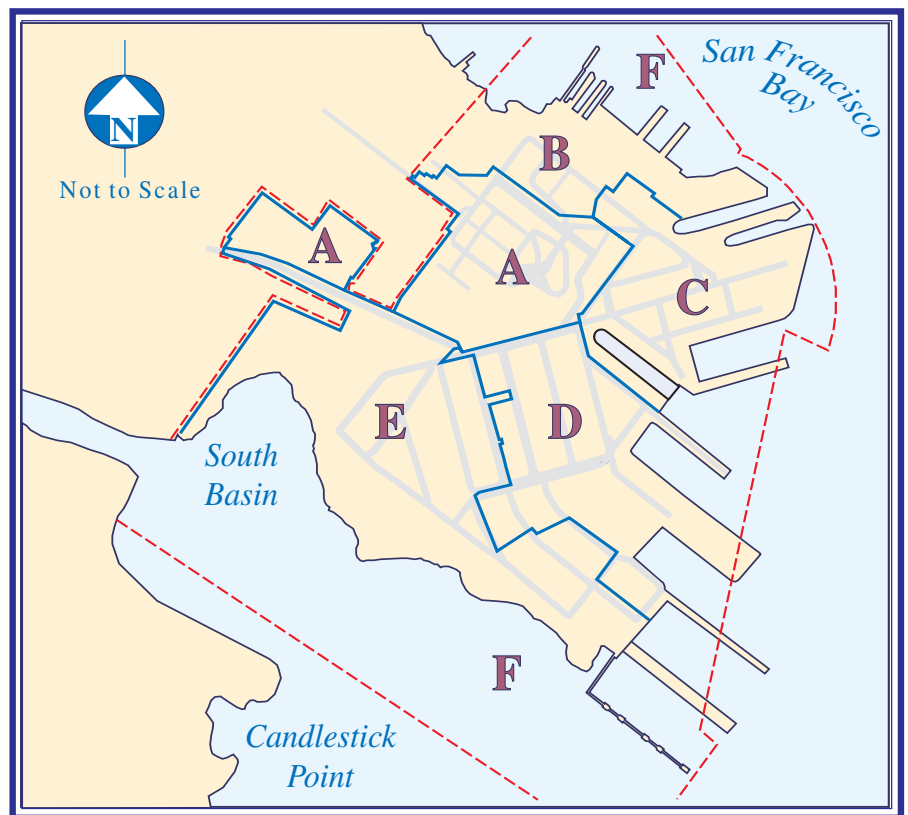
March 12, 2003



The Navy is providing this update to keep the local community, Hunters Point Shipyard (HPS) tenants, and the regulatory agencies informed of the Navy's progress in the preparation of the Draft Final Historical Radiological Assessment (HRA) for HPS. The Navy will continue to provide monthly updates to the community, tenants, and regulatory agencies as fact sheets. Supplemental fact sheets will also be issued when necessary to disseminate newly discovered information on past radiological operations.

This fact sheet contains information on the following issues:

- ✓ Why Prepare a Draft Final HRA?
- ✓ Expanded Efforts to Update HRA
- ✓ Newly Discovered Information
- ✓ What's Next?



WHY PREPARE A DRAFT FINAL HRA?

A HRA documents historical research and previous investigations of radiological operations at Navy installations. The HRA provides a "snapshot" of the radiological conditions at an installation, as they existed at the time of publication. The Navy and the regulatory agencies use the HRA as the baseline document for determining the type and extent of radiological investigations at an installation.

For HPS, the Navy published the Draft HRA to document all radiological concerns from 1939 to March 2002. The Navy received extensive comments on the Draft HRA from the regulatory agencies, the City of San Francisco and their developer, and concerned citizens. The Navy distributed the responses to these comments on March 12, 2003.

During preparation of the responses to comments, the Navy's Radiological Affairs Support Office (RASO) discovered new documentation that may contain information regarding radiological operations at HPS. Additionally, as radiological surveys have been performed at buildings and structures at HPS, the Navy has identified new sites that require radiological removals. Further, the Navy is conducting in-depth interviews with former personnel. These personnel might have knowledge of past radiological operations at HPS that will help to ensure a comprehensive HRA is produced.

The Navy is committed to preparing an accurate and comprehensive HRA. Therefore, additional time is required to complete the historic research, conduct the personal interviews, and incorporate any new information. Currently, the Navy anticipates issuing the Draft Final HRA in Fall 2003.

EXPANDED EFFORTS TO UPDATE HRA

As described above, the Navy is committed to taking the steps necessary to produce an accurate and comprehensive Draft Final HRA. To accomplish this task, the following expanded efforts are required:

Review of Historic Archives

The Navy is currently conducting a detailed review of historic records at seven different locations. RASO has also been provided with the personal files of the late Dr. C. Sharp Cooke. Dr. Cooke was preparing a detailed history of the former Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory (NRDL) at HPS, and his records include many previously unavailable documents.

Conduct Personal Interviews

The Navy placed advertisements in local newspapers to schedule interviews with former and current personnel with knowledge of radiological operations at HPS. To date, the Navy has received over 100 responses. Additionally, the HPS Restoration Advisory Board provided the name of a former NRDL worker. RASO began telephone interviews with respondents on February 19, 2003.

The Navy is still accepting interviews from individuals with information on radiological operations at HPS. The interview can be conducted in person, over the phone, or by electronic mail. To schedule an interview, please contact Mr. Daryl DeLong of New World Technology by phone at 1-800-443-7164 or by electronic mail at daryld@newworld.org.

NEWLY DISCOVERED INFORMATION

The Navy is committed to keeping the local community, HPS tenants, and the regulatory agencies aware of newly discovered information about radiological operations at HPS. The new information summarized below is based on ongoing research, and its significance has not been fully assessed.

Former Buildings D-19, D-20 and D-21. The Navy recently discovered that Buildings D-19 and D-20 were assigned to the NRDL's Material and Accounts Division for use as storerooms and offices. The Materials and Accounts Division was in charge of the administrative tasks of supply and accounting. Adjacent Building D-21 was temporarily assigned to the same NRDL division for several months in late 1951. These buildings were located along Kirkwood Avenue between Earl and Donahue Streets, on property formerly used by the Navy but outside of current Navy property boundaries. Historic records indicate that these buildings were constructed in the early 1940s and were demolished in 1952. Historic land use in this general area was for military housing and not operations.

The Navy is completing research to supplement known information and to assess any risk associated with radiological operations on HPS. Additional information will be provided in future fact sheets, as it becomes available.

WHAT'S NEXT

The Navy is committed to preparing a comprehensive and accurate HRA and will be using these fact sheets to provide updates on the Navy's progress. In addition, the Navy is continuing radiological investigations, surveys, and remediation at HPS. After completion of on-site radiological investigation, the Navy will perform final status surveys and prepare closeout reports. These reports will be published independent of the HRA for regulatory agency and public review.

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